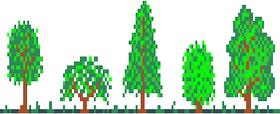


**TOWN OF CARRBORO
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD**



AGENDA
Environmental Advisory Board

December 5, 2019; 7:00 pm
Town Hall Room 109

| Time | Item | Presenter |
|----------------|--|-------------------|
| 7:00 pm | <u>Call to Order, Announcements</u> Approve 11/07/19 minutes | Chair, All |
| 7:05 pm | Staff Update | Staff |
| 7:15 pm | <u>Action Items</u> Board of Aldermen 6/25/19 Climate Resolution – Review and Finalize Summary of EAB Community Climate Action Plan Project Recommendations | Staff, Chair, All |
| 8:30 pm | <u>Discussion Items</u> Discussion of Appreciation for Weaver Street Market’s Elimination of Plastic Bag Use | Chair, All |
| 9:00 pm (est.) | Announcements, Adjourn | Chair, All |

TOWN HALL IS ACCESSIBLE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES. For more information, contact Laura Janway at (919) 918-7326.

**TOWN OF CARRBORO
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD – SUMMARY**



Meeting on November 7, 2019, 7:00 pm, Town Hall Planning Department

| Board Members | Guests | Board of Aldermen Liaison |
|----------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| Tim Turner (Chair) | Barb Stenross | Sammy Slade |
| Kathy Kaufman | Bill Blau | Staff |
| Jeanette O'Connor | Piper Honigmann | Laura Janway |
| Bruce Sinclair | Chrissie Schalkoff | Marty Roupe |

Note: Absent/Excused: Sonia Desai (Vice-Chair), Lyndsay Gavin, Keith Barnhouse

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm by Chair Tim Turner.

Housekeeping: Chair Turner will follow-up with members with high absenteeism. EAB members congratulated Alderman Slade on his re-election to the Carrboro Board of Aldermen.

Approval of Minutes – October 3, 2019 Meeting

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Kaufman and seconded by Sinclair. All members voted in favor of approval.

Staff Update

Staff member Janway stated that the consideration for a new Climate Advisory Board and the consideration of additional electric vehicle charging station requirements for developers will be on the agenda for a Board of Aldermen meeting in January. EAB members expressed their preference for the items to be considered earlier. Chair Turner suggested that the EAB could form an ad hoc climate committee in the interim. Guest Blau asked if residents should communicate the urgency of the climate crisis to the Board of Aldermen. Staff member Janway stated that the Orange County Climate Council will be discussing joint projects soon. Kaufman is also involved with the group as the Carrboro-At-Large Representative. For more information regarding meetings and scheduled projects visit: <https://www.orangecountync.gov/2228/Orange-County-Climate-Council>.

Discussion Items

Board of Aldermen from 6/25/19 Climate Resolution – Review Summary of EAB Community Climate Action Plan Project Recommendations

Turner reviewed the EAB’s Community Climate Action Plan project recommendations for the 6/25/19 Climate Resolution. Staff member Janway provided a summary of the action steps and current status of the recommendations thus far. Discussion included the urgency for staffing to manage projects that will be viable and lasting. Alternatives could include internships, grants or partnering locally to help educate and motivate citizens. Barb Stenross thanked the EAB for their work to recommend 15-foot light poles in the Lloyd Farm CUP, which was approved by the Board of Aldermen, and updated the EAB members that the land for the FLX development at Eubanks/Old 86 was sold to Duke University.

Joint Review

Members attended Joint Review to hear a presentation on Club Nova Community, Inc. (CNC) project. Joint Review ended at 8:30 pm.

Action Item

Prepare Review Comments for CNC CUP Major Modification, 103 W. Main St.

Staff member Roupe addressed questions from the EAB regarding the project which included:

- No official changes have been made to update the Land Use Ordinance (LUO) regarding trees or shading
- CNC request for the CUP condition regarding shading is subject to an LUO text amendment approval
- Challenges related to infill and building size which may be appropriate for reviewing with developers

EAB continued project review and developed recommendations on the following topics for the Board of Aldermen:

- Continued concern about shading requirements and the necessity to meet the requirements to protect the climate
- Find satellite parking for the five spots to meet VAA requirements, install two native canopy trees along the sidewalk, or decrease the building footprint to accommodate a larger canopy tree.
- Include parking for e-bikes and scooters in front of building.
- Consider pursuing solar leasing to take advantage of Duke Energy's generous non-profit rebates or install wiring in anticipation of solar. EAB members offered their time and expertise to help CNC explore this possibility. Another option would involve installing a solar canopy over the parking lot.
- Consider moving or reusing the existing historic house.
- Ensure that the gardens in the front of the building next to the sidewalk are protected from dogs and pedestrians.
- Include wiring for electric vehicle charging stations in 20% of the spaces in the parking lot.
- Inkberry (*Ilex glabra*) or wax myrtle (*Morella cerifera*) would be good choices for screening. Consider replacing the ginkgo tree listed on the plans with a species that is native to the Piedmont, such as an Eastern redbud tree (*Cercis canadensis*) or an additional serviceberry.
- For additional guidance, use the EAB Project Evaluation Template.

Turner asked to close discussion on the recommendations. Kaufman motioned to approve the recommendations, seconded by O'Connor. The vote to approve the recommendations was unanimous. In addition, a unanimous show of hands from members indicated no conflict of interest or personal gain from the recommendations.

Discussion Items

Board of Aldermen from 6/25/19 Climate Resolution – Review Summary of EAB Community Climate Action Plan Project Recommendations

Staff member Janway explained that the resolution requires that the EAB approve project recommendations in order to determine the necessary costs to be incorporated in the next budget. Janway stated that a summary will be sent out to EAB members with a request that all questions and comments are sent to staff directly with discussion to follow at the December 5th meeting.

Discussion of Appreciation for Weaver Street Market's Elimination of Plastic Bag Use

Members agreed to discuss this item at the next meeting. Members also discussed the Town's ability to address invasive species during construction projects.

Adjourn

The motion to adjourn was made by Kaufman and seconded by O'Connor, with all members voting in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 pm. The next meeting will be on December 5, 2019.

Town of Carrboro Planning Department



MEMORANDUM

Date: November 7, 2019
To: Trish McGuire, Planning Director
From: Laura Janway, Environmental Planner
Subject: EAB Recommendations for Board of Aldermen 6/25/19 Resolution

The purpose of this memo is to provide a summary of the recommendations from the Environmental Advisory Board (EAB) concerning the Board of Aldermen 6/25/19 Resolution Regarding Climate Action Goals and Budget Plan.

The Resolution directed staff and the EAB to perform the following tasks:

- The Carrboro Board of Aldermen directs the Town Manager to charge staff to work with the Environmental Advisory Board (EAB) to review the carbon reduction goals in the Environmental and Climate Protection Plan (ECPP) and Community Climate Action Plan (CCAP).
 - The EAB reviewed the CCAP carbon reduction goals in the 8/22/19, 9/5/19, and 9/19/19 meetings.
 - The EAB reviewed the ECPP carbon reduction goals in the 10/3/19 meeting.
- The Board of Aldermen directs both staff and the EAB to recommend changes as may be needed to achieve goals defined the Town of Carrboro's 2009 climate resolution, recognizing the latest science and historical responsibilities for climate change.
 - Staff provided the EAB with a summary of climate action goals made by other local governments, definitions of common terms used in climate goals, scientific recommendations made by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and research performed to update climate goals to include the principles of climate equity.
 - On 9/19/19, the EAB unanimously passed a motion to recommend a change in the CCAP goals to an 80% community reduction of 2010 levels by 2030.
 - On 10/3/19, the EAB unanimously passed a motion to recommend a change in the ECPP goals to an 80% community reduction of 2010 levels by 2030.
- The Carrboro Board of Aldermen directs the Town Manager to charge staff to work with the EAB to identify substitutions to or additional activities or projects and their estimated CO₂ reductions

- The EAB began prioritizing their CCAP recommendations at the 6/5/19 meeting. In-depth discussions were held at the 6/19/19, 7/24/19, 8/22/19, and 9/19/19 Special Meetings.
 - At the 9/5/19 meeting, the EAB discussed options for changes in advisory boards related to CCAP implementation.
 - On 9/7/19, the EAB chair approved a draft memo to the Board of Aldermen to advise on board structure, including the creation of a new, climate-focused advisory board. This memo was sent to the Planning Director and Town Manager.
- The Board of Aldermen directs both staff and the EAB to recommend such changes to include within the Town's Climate Plans, in order to more effectively reach the Town's climate reduction goals, while also recognizing principles of race and equity and climate justice.
 - At the 11/7/19 meeting, the EAB viewed a list of their current recommendations and were given the recommendations by email on 11/12/19 for review.
 - At the 12/5/19 meeting, the EAB will discuss and finalize the recommendations.
 - See Attachment A for summary of EAB recommendations.
- The Carrboro Board of Aldermen directs the Town Manger to charge staff to update cost estimations of current and proposed projects and activities, and develop a 10-year annual climate emergency budget proposal for implementing updated climate action plan goals and related activities and projects for consideration by the Carrboro Board of Aldermen beginning in the FY 2020-21 budget cycle, and annually thereafter.
 - Staff are currently drafting a climate emergency budget proposal.
- The Board of Aldermen will assess the recommended climate plan updates and budget based by cost, ability to reduce greenhouse gas emissions per the Town's carbon reduction goals, and implications for race and equity and climate justice for final inclusion in the Town's FY 2020-21 budget and annually thereafter.
- The Board of Alderman directs the Town Manager to charge staff to leverage resources from Orange County, the State of North Carolina and the Federal government, when these are available, for helping achieve the Town's goals and for offsetting costs when possible.

| Task ID | CCAP Recommendation | EAB Recommendations for Additional Activities or Projects |
|---------|---|--|
| CI1 | Create Grassroots Partnerships to Engage Community | |
| CI2 | Expand Public Partnerships to More Explicitly Consider Climate Action | Designate a climate action champion on each advisory board. |
| CI3 | Create Green Neighborhood Program | |
| CI4 | Integrate Climate Action with Local Living Economy | |
| CI5 | Expand Capacity for Sustainability Initiatives | Create Climate Advisory Board |
| | | Add additional sustainability staff |
| CI6 | Facilitate Low Cost Financing for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Projects | Use the recently-approved tax increase in Orange County to increase energy efficiency in low-income housing. |
| CI7 | Integrate Climate Action and Social/Equity Initiatives | Reach out to refugees, work with El Centro |
| BE1 | 50% Challenge | Incentivize lower energy use in buildings by framing actions using economic reasoning. |
| | | Perform an inventory of municipally-owned buildings for energy efficiency improvements |
| | | Dedicate a yearly budget amount to implement energy-efficiency projects. |
| | | Pursue solar projects on Town buildings, including solar leasing; dedicate enough funding for these projects |
| | | Create energy efficiency templates/toolkits for residents |
| | | Renewable portfolio standards - purchasing RECs |
| | | Create a set of guidelines for residents to lead a lifestyling involving owning less and sharing more |
| | | Promote the use of radiant heating and solar-heated water tanks in building design. |
| | | Citizen groups and regional governments should use whatever resources they could to agitate for modification of the "third party sale rules" that hinder many options for quick adoption of solar and removing existing impediments, such as 3rd party sales prohibition, to implementing solar. |
| | | Pursue the reinstatement of state solar tax credits. Local inducements such as local tax credits, low-interest financing through town-issued bonds could also be pursued. |
| BE2 | Energy Audit/Performance Rating | Perform energy audits on Town buildings |
| | | For existing buildings, perform energy audits at the point of sale or lease. |

| Task ID | CCAP Recommendation | EAB Recommendations for Additional Activities or Projects |
|---------|---|---|
| BE3 | Demonstrate/Pursue Energy Performance Beyond Minimum Requirements for New Development | Create a rewards program to recognize green builders. Negotiate with developers, e.g. density bonus |
| BE4 | Create Rental Property Task Force and Process | The Town could immediate move forward with this recommendation. Engage with the Town attorney to see what the Town could legally require of landlords. |
| BE5 | Create Rental Property Registry/Certification | The Town could immediately move forward with this recommendation. |
| TM1 | 50% Challenge | Strategic placement of EV charging stations combined with increased advertisement of locations Require EV charging stations and infrastructure in new developments in the LUO Incorporate solar panels to power EV charging stations Use B100 biodiesel for half the year in Town vehicles (when the temperatures are above freezing) Rental scooters and bikes Incentivize EV cars with priority spaces at popular destinations. Continue discussing Bolin Creek Greenway. |
| TM2 | Enhance Transit Service | Extending transit service - routes that run into RTP and Durham aren't being fully utilized. |
| TM3 | Improve Vanpool/Carpool Options | |
| TM4 | Further Promote Walking, Biking, Transit | Apply for funding from the Triangle Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Program Have a staff member work more on TDM Find a way to integrate more schools in the Safe Routes to Schools Grant through the Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools (CHCCS) - include non-infrastructure projects and middle- and high-schools. |
| TM5 | Limit Idling in School Loading Zones | |
| TM6 | Improve Bicycle and Pedestrian Infrastructure | Apply for Platinum status through the League of American Cyclists' Bicycle Friendly Communities program Pursue infrastructure-based projects. |

| Task ID | CCAP Recommendation | EAB Recommendations for Additional Activities or Projects |
|---------|--|--|
| RE1 | Pursue Community Solar Projects | Work with a non-profit to become a community champion |
| | | Form a utility |
| | | Solar project on Eubanks Rd landfill |
| | | Create a microgrid under Duke Power |
| | | Pursue solar projects in areas beyond solely Town buildings. |
| RE2 | Pursue Downtown Geothermal Heating and Cooling | Use Orange County as an example |
| RE3 | Create Rental Property Task Forces and Process | |
| ES1 | Pursue Stormwater Utility | Implement changes in ordinances related to stormwater management to require developers to absorb the cost of increased stormwater requirements |
| ES2 | Evaluate Extent to Which the Deer Population and Climate Change affect Native Plant Ecosystems | Partner with a local university for research on impacts of deer population to forest health/invasive species. To start, reach out universities/botanical gardens to see if anyone is currently researching question. |
| | | Create an ordinance against feeding deer |
| ES3 | Accelerate/Expand Organic Waste Collection/Composting | Set up an educational demonstration on Town property to hold monthly events |
| ES4 | Tree Preservation, Protection, and Conservation | The Town should set specific standards for arborists in analyzing impacts to trees and determining tree health. |
| | | Create a public-private partnership for planting canopy trees on the edges of properties. |
| | | Analyze carbon capture on development sites. |
| | | Add additional environmental review requirements for developers to the Town's LUO, including tools such as the NHP Data Explorer and the Green Growth Toolbox |
| | | Perform outreach to environmental policy experts to see what Carrboro can do with broad land-use planning and Zoning, such as creating a Conservation overlay |
| | | Require EAB to use tools such as the NHP data explorer, national wetland inventory, DEQ environmental justice tool, and green growth toolbox before making recommendations. |
| | | Work with Orange County to exchange land in the Rural Buffer to protect properties with high ecological value, such as properties along Eubanks Road. |

| Task ID | CCAP Recommendation | EAB Recommendations for Additional Activities or Projects |
|----------------|--|--|
| ES5 | Improve Regulations and Community Capacity to Discourage Invasive Plants and Encourage Native Plants | Provide education and resources about invasives and native plants by adding features on native plants to the Town website or creating informational brochures. |
| | | Educate Town staff about treating invasive species on Town properties |
| | | Initiate a Climate Friendly Habitat Program and promote New Hope Audubon Society's Bird Friendly Habitats Certification Program |
| | | Create awareness campaign to encourage residents to leave leaves on the ground in their yard. |
| | | Observe Earth Day with large event. |
| ES6 | Pursue Watershed Restoration Actions to Protect Local Streams from Changes in Rainfall Due to Climate Change | |
| DM1 | 50% Challenge | Use behavioral information about motivations for food choices to encourage residents to choose plant-based options, e.g. menu placement |
| | | Work with local restaurants to promote plant-based meals and promote ideas such as Meatless Mondays. |
| DM2 | Develop Local Dietary Consumption and Associated GHG Profile | Purchase local sales data and grocery store loyalty data |

| New Section | EAB Recommendations |
|-----------------------|---|
| Environmental Justice | Add section regarding environmental justice and climate equity to CCAP. |
| | Community-based participatory research and participatory democracy concepts should be considered when deciding how best to work with community members to achieve goals |
| | Utilize mapping tools and other resources. |
| | Hold meetings in neighborhoods outside of Town Hall |
| Carbon Offsets | The Town should have a metric to determine how analyze what to prioritize in terms of buying carbon offsets - it is important to know more specifics about the projects and their efficiency. |

| New Section | EAB Recommendations |
|--------------------|---|
| Research | Protect local climate change research |
| Biodiversity | Develop a biodiversity protection plan to go along with CCAP, using local resources such as the Natural Heritage program and retired professors |
| | Create thresholds for biodiversity and carbon capture in developments |

DRAFT